



Year Four Multiplication Check (MTC) Information for Parents/Carers

What is the Year 4 MTC?

- The MTC determines if Year 4 children can fluently recall their multiplication tables.
- They are designed to help schools identify which children require more support to learn their times tables.
- There is no 'pass' rate or threshold which means that, unlike the Phonics Screening Check, children will not be expected to re-sit the check.
- The Department for Education (DfE) will create a report about the overall results across all schools in England, not individual schools.

When will the check take place?

- There will be a 3-week window from Monday 5th June to Friday 23rd June 2023 for schools to administer the check.
- There is no set day to administer the check and children are not expected to take the check at the same time.
- All eligible Year 4 children in England will be required to take the check.


How the check is carried out

- The check will be fully digital.
- Answers will be entered using a keyboard, by pressing digits using a mouse or using an on-screen number pad.
- Usually, the check will take less than 5 minutes for each child.
- The children will have 6 seconds from the time the question appears to input their answer.
- There will be a total of 25 questions with a 3 second pause in-between questions.
- There will be 3 practice questions before the check begins.

What it looks like

Try it out Time left: 6

$5 \times 6 =$

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
	0	Enter

Specific Arrangements for the Check

Some children will be eligible for specific arrangements:

- Colour contrast;
- Font size adjustment;
- 'Next' button (alternative to 3-second pause);
- Removing on-screen number pad;
- An adult to input answers;
- Audio version;
- Audible time alert.

The MTC Questions

- Each child will be randomly assigned a set of questions
- There will only be multiplication questions in the check, not division facts.
- The 6, 7, 8, 9 and 12 times tables are more likely to be asked.
- Reversal of questions (e.g. 8×6 and 6×8) will not be asked in the same check.
- Children will not see their individual results when they complete the check.

The MTC Questions - continued

The Standards and Testing Agency (STA) state that they are classifying the multiplication tables by the first number in the question.

For example, 8×3 would fall within the 8 times table.

5.2.1 Table 1 – Multiplication table limits in the MTC

Multiplication Table	Minimum number of items in each form	Maximum number of items in each form
1	Not applicable	Not applicable
2	0	2
3	1	3
4	1	3
5	1	3
6	2	4
7	2	4
8	2	4
9	2	4
10	0	2
11	1	3
12	2	4

How will we support your child?

- Targeted teaching and revision of key times tables
- Prior experience of the format (e.g. TTRS soundcheck, MTC 'practice area' and maths frame multiplication check)
- Tests will be undertaken individually to avoid distractions

Ways to support times tables recall

- There are many ways to practise times tables and every child will have ways that work better/worse for them. Find a way that motivates them!
- However, one thing that is beneficial for all is the 'little and often' approach – it is much better to practise regularly for a few minutes than to spend 1 hour practising and then not to do so again for a week.

Ways to support times tables recall – counting in multiples and looking for patterns

Example: Counting in 2s
2, 4, 6, 8, 10...

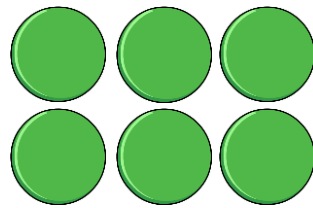
- Ensure children have a strong understanding of counting in groups first.
- When children are secure with counting, they can then look for patterns.



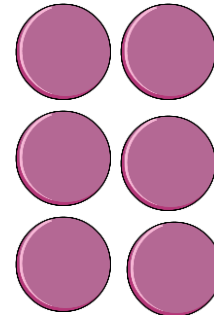
Ways to support times tables recall – Multiplication is commutative

3×2 is the same as 2×3

- Children need to understand that multiplication can be completed in any order to produce the same answer. Sometimes this link needs to be made explicit.



3 lots of 2 = 6



2 lots of 3 = 6

Ways to support times tables recall – Using known facts

$$4 \times 6 = ?$$

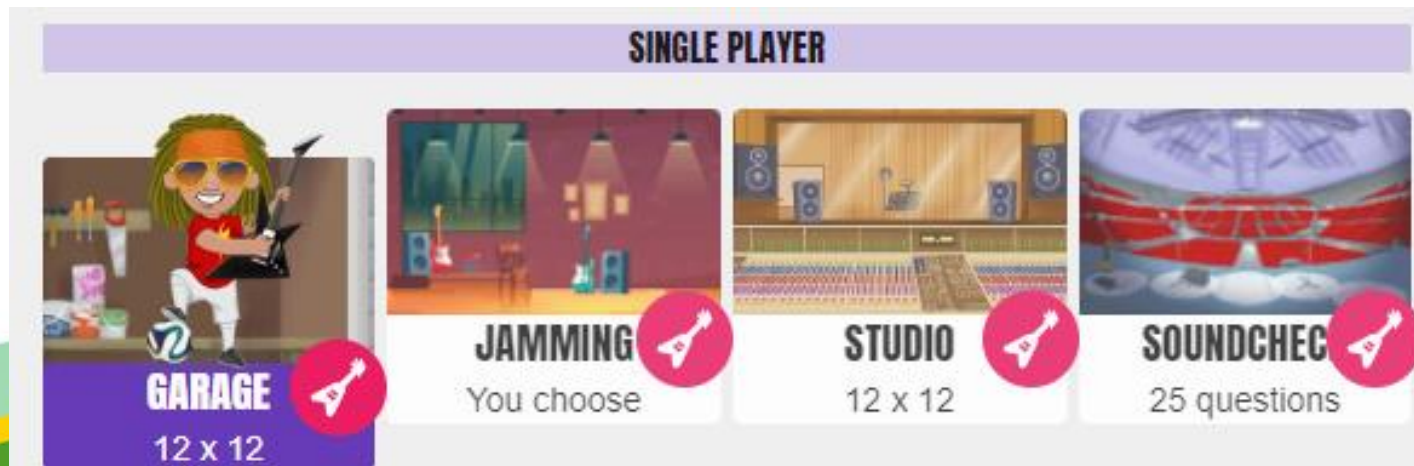
$$\text{I know } 4 \times 5 = 20$$

$$\text{Therefore, } 20 + 4 = 24$$

By using known facts from 'easier' times tables, children should be able to find answers with increasing speed.

Ways to support times tables recall – TTRS

- **Garage** - This game is based on their current level (determined by TTRS assessments called 'Gigs'). As they develop their speed/accuracy of recall, their level will increase and they will be gradually introduced to more times tables.
- **Studio** - The questions in the Studio can be anything from 2x2 up to 12x12. TTRS calculates the mean speed from their last 10 games in the Studio and translates into a Rock Status (e.g. Rockstar, Headliner, etc.).
- **Jamming** – This allows pupils to choose the times tables they would like to access.
- **Soundcheck** – this replicates the Year 4 multiplication check



A photograph of a classroom with several children in green school uniforms sitting at desks. In the foreground, a boy is writing on a piece of paper. To his left, a girl is also writing. In the background, another boy is visible, looking down at his work. The desks are cluttered with various school supplies like pens, pencils, and a ruler. A semi-transparent green overlay covers the bottom half of the image, containing text and logos.

Any Questions?

Year Four Multiplication Check Parent Information Meeting Feedback

